

House Bill 228

By: Representatives Porter of the 143rd, Hugley of the 133rd, Randall of the 138th, Ashe of the 56th, Jamieson of the 28th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to remove the hourly caps on HOPE scholarships at public postsecondary institutions; to remove the hourly caps on HOPE scholarships at private postsecondary institutions; to remove the hourly caps on HOPE grants at a branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising subsection (g) of Code Section 20-3-519.2, relating to eligibility requirements for HOPE scholarships at public postsecondary institutions, as follows:

~~"(g)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a~~ A student may receive the HOPE scholarship until the ~~first of these events:~~

~~(A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or~~

~~(B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.~~

~~(2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate or first professional degree program designed to be more than 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive the HOPE scholarship for the lesser of:~~

~~(A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or~~

~~(B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours."~~

SECTION 2.

Said part is further amended by revising subsection (f) of Code Section 20-3-519.3, relating to eligibility requirements for HOPE scholarships at private postsecondary institutions, as follows:

~~"(f)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a A student may receive a HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:~~

~~(A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or~~

~~(B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.~~

~~(2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate or first professional degree program designed to be more than 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship for the lesser of:~~

~~(A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or~~

~~(B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours."~~

SECTION 3.

Said part is further amended by repealing subsections (e) and (f) of Code Section 20-3-519.5, relating to eligibility for HOPE grants at a branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education, which read as follows:

~~"(e) No student may receive HOPE grants for more than 95 quarter hours or 63 semester hours of attempted coursework, except as provided for in subsection (f) of this Code section. No student may receive more than a cumulative total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours of combined HOPE scholarships and grants, unless in accordance with Code Sections 20-3-519.2 and 20-3-519.3. For purposes of this subsection, attempted hours shall include hours for courses taken pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1.~~

~~(f) A student enrolled in a diploma program designed to be more than 95 quarter hours or 63 semester hours in length is eligible to receive a HOPE grant for the lesser of:~~

~~(1) A total of 130 attempted quarter hours or 86 attempted semester hours; or~~

~~(2) The number of hours required for graduation."~~

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.